

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) 15 Projects in Nepal are under implementation or under consideration for execution with Indian assistance.

(b) Indian aided Projects along with the estimates are given below. These Projects are fully funded by Government of India :

| (Rs. in crores) | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Project | Cost |
| 1. Sirsiya Bridge at Raxaul (since completed) | 3.50 |
| 2. Rajbiraj Industrial Estate (since completed) | 2.12 |
| 3. B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences Project at Dharan | 88.00 |
| 4. 22 Bridges on Kohalpur Mahakali Sector of East-West Highway | 55.00 |
| 5. Supply of Iodised Salt for Goitre Control | 9.96 |
| 6. Lumbini Project | 3.44 |
| 7. Hetauda Museum | 3.68 |
| 8. Expansion of Shree Panch Indra Rajya Laxmi Maternity Hospital | 1.00 |
| 9. Broadgauging of Birganj-Raxaul rail link | 13.00 |
| 10. Greater Janakpur Development Project | 50.00 |
| New Projects | |
| 11. Expansion of Bir Hospital by 200 beds | 28.00 |
| 12. Koshi-Bharada Road | 7.00 |
| 13. Embankment along Bagmati, Kamala, Khado and Lalbakaiya rivers | 41.00 |
| 14. Biratnagar-Rangeli-Bhadrapur Road | 260.00 |
| 15. Birpur-chatara Road | 17.00 |

(c) There is a constant endeavour to strengthen and diversify bilateral relations with Nepal. In the past year, high level visits have been exchanged between the two countries. The External Affairs Minister visited Nepal in January 1996 followed by the visit of Prime Minister of Nepal to India in February 1996 and the visit of the Foreign Minister of Nepal to India in August 1996. During these visits an extensive exchange of views and a detailed review of bilateral relations took place.

In August 1996, the High Level Task Force (HLTF) met in New Delhi to have a project-wise review of economic relations between the two countries. The major ongoing project being implemented with Government of India assistance include the setting up of a medical college and institute at Dharan, and the construction of 22 bridges on the East-West Highway in Western Nepal.

Further, additional locomotives and coaches have been supplied to strengthen services on the Jayanagar-Janakpur railway sector. Work on surveys for outer ring road at Janakpur, broad-gauging of rail link between Raxaul and Sirsiya, as well as other Projects have been initiated. During the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to India in February 1996, the "Treaty concerning the integrated Development of the Mahakali River including Sarada Barrage, Tanakpur Barrage and Pancheshwar Project" was concluded. This Treaty envisages implementation of the concerned Projects jointly by India and Nepal. These Projects on completion would yield significant benefits to both countries. Steps are already underway to follow up on the necessary activities to commence implementation of the various Projects. In addition, a liberalised trade regime to enhance bilateral commercial exchange in general and Nepal's exports to India in particular, is being facilitated.

MFN Status to India by Pakistan

3473. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUÉ : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has taken any effective steps to accord the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Status to India;

(b) whether Pakistan has laid down a condition that India opened up her border; and

(c) whether Government have met opposition from security agencies on this point?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Pakistan has not yet accorded Most Favoured Nation status to India.

(b) Government has not received any proposal from Pakistan regarding India opening its border as a condition for Pakistan granting India the MFN status.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Branches of Indira Gandhi National Open University

3474. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the places where the branches of the Indira Gandhi National Open University are located;

(b) whether some more branches are being opened; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA)

(a) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University, seventeen Regional

Centres of the University have already been established at different places in the country, the details of which are given in the Statement.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected.

STATEMENT

List of IGNOU Regional Centres

| S.No. | Place of Regional Centres | Address | Operational area |
|-------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Ahmedabad | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre 268-C, Pitru Ashish, Near Avani Flats, Iswar Bhawan Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009 | Gujarat |
| 2. | Bhopal | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre E-7/62, Arera Colony, Near Bus Stop II, SBI Colony, Bhopal-462016. | Madhya Pradesh |
| 3. | Calcutta | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, Bikash Bhawan, Bidhan Nagar, 4th Floor, North Block, Salt Lake, Calcutta-700 091. | West Bengal |
| 4. | New Delhi | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, Circular Road, Chanakyapuri New Delhi-110021 | Delhi Ghaziabad District of U.P. and Gurgaon and Faridabad Districts of Haryana |
| 5. | Jaipur | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre C-113, Shivaji Marg, Tilak Nagar, Jaipur-302004. | Rajasthan |
| 6. | Lucknow | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre B-1/33, Sector-H, Aliganj, Lucknow-226020. | Uttar Pradesh excluding District Ghaziabad |
| 7. | Pune | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, Symbiosis Premises Senapati Bapat Road, Pune-411004. | Maharashtra |
| 8. | Shillong | Asstt. Regional Director (i/c) IGNOU Regional Centre Sunny Lodge, Nongthymmai Nongshilliang Shillong-793014 | Meghalaya Mizoram Nagaland Tripura Manipur |
| 9. | Bangalore | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre N.S.S.S. Kalyana Kendra No. 293, 39th Cross, Jayanagar, 8th Block Bangalore-660082. | Karnataka Goa |
| 10. | Bhubaneswar | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, 222/1, Shastri Nagar, Unit-4, Bhubaneswar-751001. | Orissa |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11. | Cochin | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, Mamangalam Palarivattom P.O. Cochin-682025. | Kerala Lakshadweep |
| 12. | Hyderabad | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, Cess Building, Nizamia Observatory Compound Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016 | Andhra Pradesh |
| 13. | Kernal | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Old Govt. College Campus Railway Road, Karnal-132001 | Punjab Chandigarh (UT) Haryana excluding Dist. Gurgaon and Faridabad of Haryana |
| 14. | Chennai | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre 28, South Boag Road, (Gwalior Shivaji Ganeshan Road), T. Nagar, Chennai-600017. | Tamil Nadu Pondicherry Andaman and Nicobar Islands |
| 15. | Patna | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre 170-A, Patliputra Colony Patna-800013. | Bihar |
| 16. | Shimla | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Willys Park, Near A.I.R. Station, P.O. Chaura Maidan, Shimla-171004. | Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir |
| 17. | Guwahati | Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Navagiri Road, Ist Bye-Lane, Chandmari, Guwahati-781003. | Assam, Arunachal Pradesh & Sikkim |

Admission of Students in KVs

3475. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether concerned Assistant Commissioners are the competent authority for the admission of the children in category-IV in Kendriya Vidyalayas in special cases;

(b) if so, the details of those special cases;

(c) details of other officers who are comptent to order for such admissions;

(d) whether Assistant Commissioner of Jaipur Division has given admissions under this category in a large number during this year; and

(e) if so, the school-wise and class-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. As per admission guidelines approved by the Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, the Assistant Commissioners are competent

to allow admissions to the children of category III and IV in Civil and Defence sector Kendriya Vidyalayas and Category-IV and V in Project Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas up to the class strength of 32 if the children of priority categories are not available.

(d) and (e). Admissions of 395 children in 17 Civil Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas, 57 children in 8 Defence Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas and 44 children in 3 Project Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas have been permitted by the Assistant Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Jaipur Region.

Basic Facilities in Navodaya Vidyalayas

3476. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints have been received regarding poor maintenance and lack of basis facilities in Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide basic facilities in these schools and ensure proper maintenance?